

SANTA FE GAZETTE.

VOLUME V.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, AUGUST 8, 1863.

(NUMBER 8 NEW SERIES)

SANTA FE WEEKLY GAZETTE.

"Independent in all things, Neutral in nothing."

JAMES L. COLLINS, PUBLISHED BY

JOHN T. RICHMOND, EDITOR.

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Indians on the Pecos.

The following letter from Indian Agent Labadi to Col. Collins shows the condition in which the Apaches under his charge are, and also speaks of the delinquency of the Navajos in the neighborhood of Anton Chico. From other sources we learn that the Navajos are to be found in large numbers on the Pecos and it is feared they will be more than usually troublesome. All the troops that can be possibly spared from garrison duty at the posts are now in the field against the Indians and it is to be hoped that with the arrival of fall we will see them all chastised and at peace with the whites. Here is Agent Labadi's letter:

PORT SUMNER, NEW MEXICO.

July 23d 1863.

SIR:—I have the honor to inform you that all the Mescalero Apaches in my charge at this Post are truly at peace, and continue to labor with much industry.

Some rumors have been circulated by the people that these Indians were leaving here with hostile intentions. But any one wishing to inform himself as to their conduct, would do well to visit Fort Sumner where he will find them working in the best fields to be seen in New Mexico.

The Navajos have continued to commit their depredations. A few days ago they stole from Agent Nagai a quantity of corn and wounded a boy 12 years old who has since died of his wounds.

To-day I have received information that the Navajos killed five men at Chiriqui's near Anton Chico and that several parties of them have concentrated in the settlements of San Miguel county.

Please communicate these facts to Genl. Carlton Commanding Dept. for his information. I am respectfully your ob't servant,

LORRENZO LABADI.

U. S. Indian Agent.

Col. JAMES L. COLLINS,
Supt. of Indian Affairs,
Santa Fe, N. M.

On the 18th of June Lieut. Juan Marquez, 1st N. M. Vols. was sent to Horse Head crossing on the Pecos for picket duty. He had with him fifteen men of Co. "A," and arrived at Los Quemas on the 25th of June. He reported that he saw "no signs of any enemy of any kind having been in that part of the country for a long time past."

On the 14th July he was relieved from picket duty by the arrival of Lieut. Lattimore of 1st California Cavalry. He left camp on the 16th and marched two days towards Fort Stanton and about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 18th was attacked in camp by a party of what was supposed to be about fifty Indians. They were taken completely by surprise, the first notice they had of the proximity of the Indians, being a shower of bullets, all of which passed over their heads. The camp being aroused by the attack the first thing the men did was to secure their stock, and in the mean time the Indians took possession of the camp. After the stock was looked after the Lieutenant returned with a party of his command and attacked the Indians and fought them for nearly six hours, when their ammunition gave out and they had to cease the conflict. Orders were given to the men to break their guns and make their escape as best they could. At this time a horse ran past where the Lieutenant was, and he fortunately mounted him and after receiving an arrow wound in the arm made his escape. The horse ran in the direction of the other animals and started them on a stampede. This diverted the attention of the Indians from the men who were now almost in their power, and they made off to prevent the horses and mules from escaping them. Whilst they were on the errand the men made their escape and by going to the river and wading up it under cover of the bank managed to elude the pursuit of the savages and succeeded in reaching Fort Stanton with the exception of one, who was killed. All the animals, sixteen horses and seventeen mules, were taken by the Indians. The number of Indians killed in the fight could not be ascertained but the bodies of six dead were seen. The whole number of warriors in the engagement was estimated at two hundred. When the engagement began but about fifty were visible the balance having concealed themselves in an arroyo near by. The fight took place on an open plain about fifty-five miles south of Fort Stanton. Four of the Lieutenant's men were wounded.

Lieut. Lattimore's company was supposed to be in great danger from the same party of Indians and Maj. Smith, in command at Fort Stanton, sent Capt. Abree and Fritz with sixty-four mounted men with ten day's rations, to relieve them and if possible chastise the Indians. At the latest date nothing had been heard at Stanton from the command.

There is a difference of opinion in regard to the tribe to which these Indians belong, but the weight of evidence would seem to mark them out as Navajos. Agent Labadi says nothing of any of his Apaches having left Sumner. On the con-

trary he is careful to deny the report that some of them had left.

We presume the next express from Fort Stanton will bring further news from the command that had been sent to the relief of Lieut. Lattimore.

The reports which were in circulation in the city on Monday last in reference to the presence of a large number of Navajo Indians at Torquem four miles to the north east of here were greatly exaggerated. Instead of there having been forty or fifty as was stated, the whole number was four. Instead of the Pueblos pursuing the Navajos and having an engagement with them giving them the worst of it, the Navajos stole ten animals from the Pueblos and succeeded in carrying them off.

This near approach to Santa Fe of four Navajos when we have an army in their country to chastise the tribe is an act of foolhardy bravado that cannot be repeated and of which a repetition will not probably be attempted again.

Decisions.—On the Spanish side of to-day's paper will be found the card of Maj. Beca y Salazar, in which he assigns his reasons for declining to be a candidate for the Council at the coming election. It is to be regretted that Maj. Beca has declined to permit his name to be used in this connection for we know that he would have been elected and would have made an efficient officer.

Maj. Beca's declination leaves a vacancy in the ticket which should be filled with the name of another gentleman who will be equally as efficient.

This part of the Territory has for the past three weeks been suffering greatly for the want of water. It seems that we are to have the rainy season no more.

In the District Court, Chief Justice Brewster presiding, a large amount of business of an important nature was disposed of this week. The session will continue through next week.

Politics in Taos.

For the Gazette.

Taos, July 29 1863.

MR. EDITOR:—

On Saturday there was a big meeting of the friends of Col. Peres at this place. The Court House was jam full of the independent voters of Taos County. The rotten wire workers for the Padre saw that they must do something to break down the force of this meeting, so they commenced their dirty work by circulating one of their own stamps to recede over the meeting. When these were objected to as at the time they had all their traps set to take as by surprise we were called to let them go and thereupon the meeting was organized and the speaking commenced. No doubt they intended to break up the meeting, but in this they failed as the sequel will show. I never saw a set of fellows so used up as they were by Mr. John Laroux who occupied the stand for some two hours lashing the cotton cloth and showing them up in a ridiculous manner. He then went to work upon the little Padre and from the public documents showed him up in his true light. I assure you the few who and I never heard such a scathing castigation given to a person as he gave to the Padre. The Padre's friends shook in their boots and tried many times to disturb Mr. Laroux, but he was not to be deterred by such a set of thick material. The friends of Peres, and the speaker, withdrew and would not allow him to be disturbed and Mr. Laroux, such cheering and warm applause as was given show conclusively to my mind that the people are wide awake, and that they are not to be fooled by the Padre and his co-henchmen, such as Santiago Valdez, Pedro Valdez and by way of excellence Don Pedro Sanchez the Commander-in-Chief, as he thinks of the United States and New Mexico in particular. Mr. Laroux handled this beautiful trap roughly and without gloves. He is a fine speaker and one who will be listened to. The trial often tried to disturb him but it was no go, and after concluding his able defense for our side, and for the manner in which they had acted in the organization of the meeting, he left the Court House in a body, leaving there the would-be dictators in sole possession of a large room and a few occupied seats. A meeting was then organized in the Plaza of which you will be advised. Many speeches were there made by Laroux, Maxwell, Blackwood, Espinosa, and Col. Valdez, of Mora. In this meeting the state question was spoken of and the people showed strong opposition to this thing. As the Padre is for it you may rest assured that after the explanation by the speakers the Padre lost many votes.

The feeling here is violent and warm and came near breaking out in personal conflicts. None, however, occurred. The meeting adjourned with cheers for Col. Peres, and all agreed to meet Sunday at the Rancho. Sunday came and there was an immense crowd at the Rancho to hear the speakers. After the meeting was called to order, Mr. P. Valdez addressed it in favor of the Padre, and as at Taos he came down on them with slange hammer licks and demolished their pretended notions, closing amidst great cheering. After which Mr. S. Valdez spoke, as usual, in his dull manner. When he concluded Mr. Espinosa took the stand and he gave to this trio some truths which were rather too hard for them to bear. He told them about their actions in regard to the pay of soldiers, which made them twist and writhe, and they had to bear it and make the best of it. The bystanders cheered him and are fully satisfied that this party are held together by the strong ties of corruption and plunder. You may rest assured that if things go on as they have commenced we will carry this county by a handsome majority. I have hopes in the good moral sense of the people.

LOOKER ON.

We make the following extract from a letter written to us from Taos:

Taos, July 29 1863.

I can assure you, Mr. Editor, that the position of the late congressional convention is not heartily endorsed by the people of this county, although

the New Mexican, through its correspondent from Taos, says he is and says that he, Gallagher, has but few opponents with the exception of Ferdinand Maxwell, Indian Agent. Now sir, permit me to say that the correspondent of the New Mexican is very much mistaken, for not only Mr. Maxwell, who felt it to be his duty to oppose the nomination of that convention, but still will do so in an independent manner fairly and openly, but I find many influential men in this county who fully justify Mr. Maxwell in his opposition to the nomination and will at the coming election give Col. Peres their warm and cordial support, and the writer to the New Mexican will find that Col. Peres has many warm and ardent supporters in this county—men who have the good of the country at heart and who have spent their best days in working for the interest of this Territory.

From the Democrat News, June 17.

Another Horrid Indian Massacre.

How many attacks have been made by Indians on the Overland Mail stage, and stations along the line, between Great Salt Lake City and Carson, and how many men have been killed by the experienced, merciless, revengeful and malicious savages on that route since the U. S. crossed the Sierras for its protection, we know not, but a great many more than is generally known, and more than ever before in the same length of time since the commencement of the Overland Mail service. Instead of these murders attacks becoming less frequent, they seem to occur oftener as time progresses, and there are no prospects whatever that they will ever cease under existing arrangements, so far as we can discover.

On Wednesday last, the 10th inst., between nine and ten in the morning, a most daring attack was made on the incoming Western stage, on this side of Fort Crittenden, and within about two miles of the Jordan river ferry, by a party of Indians, resulting in its capture and almost total destruction, and in the massacre of the driver, Mr. Wood J. Reynolds, and an employee named Thomas O'Sullivan, as stated, who was on his way to the city, the bodies of whom, after they were killed, were mutilated in the most horrid, savage manner the murderous fiends could devise.

Fortunately there were no passengers, for had there been, the circumstances indicate that escape would have been impossible, and that all would have shared the fate of the driver and the unfortunate employee, who was on his way to the city. The circumstances, so far as they have been related, or have come to our knowledge, were as follows:

On Tuesday afternoon or evening, Mr. O. P. Rockwell, who, at the request of Mr. Randolph, treasurer of the company in this city, was taking out an extra coach with a span of mules; sent it forward to Fort Crittenden from his station at the Hot Springs, twenty miles south of the city, by a young man in his employ named Frederick Scarlett. The ferry boat having been sunk that day by prevailing high winds, as understood, he had to go by way of the last bridge, at or near which he was informed by some person that it would be well for him to keep a good look out, as hostile Indians were reported to be advancing on the West side of Utah Lake. It is supposed that the young man, who was sent to the station, and whether or not he related what he saw, told on his arrival at Fort Crittenden had not traversed. He neither saw any Indians nor heard anything further concerning their presence between the river and the station at Fort Crittenden, and the outgoing coach, which was filled with passengers, among whom was Col. Evans, arrived there that night safely with no molestation.

At about 5 o'clock on Wednesday morning, the incoming stage left Fort Crittenden for this city, and when at or near the top of the hill west of the ferry it was attacked by a band of Indians on horseback, estimated by a man who saw them at a distance as they were moving off, after they had effected the object in view, at about twenty-five in number.

The young man who took the extra coach to Fort Crittenden on Tuesday evening, started back on Wednesday morning with the horses, riding one of the animals and leading the other, and was not more than three or four miles behind the stage when it was attacked by the savages. When within a mile or two of where the attack and murder was consummated he heard the report of a gun some distance off. He soon after saw some blood in the road, which increased in quantity as he advanced. The coach was next discovered as being a quarter of a mile from the road, to which he immediately proceeded, supposing that the team had been away; but on arriving at the wreck he was horrified at the sight presented; for there lay the bodies of the two murdered men—on each side of the coach—stripped naked and mutilated in a most horrid manner, marked with balls, arrows and spears, cut with knives and scalped in an unusual way, as the hairy part of their heads had been literally shaved. Two of the horses were also lying dead, another severely wounded, and the fourth was missing.

The coach was completely dismantled, and riddled with balls. The mail sacks were missing, having been ripped open and emptied of their contents, which was principally or wholly recovered. A bag for Wells, Fargo & Co., New York, was missing, but was found next day by Mr. Wiman, of Fairfield, about one hundred and fifty yards from where the tragedy was enacted, unopened, and duly forwarded by the agent at Fairfield, to whom it was delivered. The Indians had evidently dropped it in their haste to get away. Mistaking a white man, seen on a hill near by, for an Indian, Scarlett returned back towards Fort Crittenden, till he met a man on horse-back, when the two returned to the wreck, and on ascertaining that the spectator on the hill was not an Indian, they beckoned him to their assistance. The three men put the dead bodies into the coach, together with all the mail matter they could find, hatched on the animals Scarlett was leading back, and started for Rockwell's station. A few miles out from the station they met Mr. Rockwell who had been informed by a messenger from Labi, who had heard of the occurrence, of what had transpired. On arriving at his station, Mr. Rockwell came on to the city with the coach as quickly as possible.

The bodies of the murdered men were taken in charge by Mr. R. S. Randolph, agent of the Overland Mail Company, and properly taken care of and prepared for burial. They were interred in the city cemetery on the afternoon of Thursday, the 11th, with appropriate ceremonies.

The Indians are reported to have fled southward from whence they came, by way of the mountains west of Utah Lake, and subsequently, as believed, crossed to the Wasatch range, in some of the recesses of which they are now probably concealed, unless they have gone east.

Pennsylvania and Her Labelers.

Some of the New York and the New England journals are indulging in rather dangerous, if not imprudent, criticism at the expense of Pennsylvania. A Boston paper reproaches her with not having contradicted her quota unless the several calls of the President. No necessary could be more false, and from no quarter could such criticism come with more grace than from Massachusetts. The aggregate number of troops required by the President under his various calls is, in round numbers, twelve hundred thousand. Pennsylvania's quota of that aggregate would be about one hundred and seventy thousand but the rolls in the office of her Adjutant General show that prior to the first day of January last, she had sent into the field two hundred thousand three hundred and thirty six men—more than thirty thousand above her quota under all the calls.

In no instance since the outbreak of the rebellion has she failed to respond with full and overdone numbers. When called upon in April, 1861, for fifteen regiments, she placed twenty-five in the field inside of fourteen days. After the great disaster at Bull Run, when Washington was left at the mercy of the enemy, she dispatched instantly to that city her splendid reserve of fifteen regiments, numbering fifteen thousand eight hundred and fifty-four men. Under the call of July, 1861, she promptly placed in the field, in addition to her reserve, twenty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine men, in every way outstripping Massachusetts. Under the call of July, 1862, she was second to no Atlantic State, in promptness, excepting New Jersey, and was far away ahead of the Bay State, which was notoriously lagged on that occasion. These reproaches are, therefore, not only unjust to our State, but utterly out of place, coming from the quarter they do.

So far as New York is concerned, we cannot in view of her gallant and noble response to the call of our President, enter into any controversy involving her. But we may say to the Times of her metropolitan city that it speaks improper words when she is giving credit for one hundred thousand men in the service now. We have sent out more than two hundred thousand men. Re-enforcing the twenty thousand three months' men and the four or five other regiments returned, we should have credit for one hundred and seventy thousand. If the estimate of the Times be correct the difference between one hundred thousand men in the service now, and the one hundred and seventy thousand sent to the field, would show a fearful catalogue of the children of Pennsylvania left on Southern battlefields, or maimed or otherwise disabled in the service of their country.

Lastly, the Tribune of yesterday, after mentioning the fact that Lee has crossed the Potomac, and seems to be threatening no advance into the heart of Pennsylvania, expresses the hope that he may not be diverted from that purpose. It is after this fashion that the Tribune prosecutes its course of the conduct of the war, no matter who suffers. It may be very well for Mr. Greeley, sitting safely at a distance from danger, to write in this heartless manner of the invasion and plunder of some of the finest counties in Pennsylvania. It may square exactly with his views or desire to have this State made the theatre of such devastations as confounding armies always leave in their track. But the people of Pennsylvania will not let to look with disgust at the theories which pay for the violation of such a calmly upon their soil, until the North can be armed and armed. Hereafter, a large portion of our people have called, their remarks upon the Tribune and its editor to expressions of aversion and contempt; for the future, they can scarcely avoid holding them up to bitter execration.

Thrilling Story.

The following was communicated by Mr. P. Merriam to the *Postmaster's Journal*:

As early as 1859, Erick Rande, an Icelandic chief, fitted out an expedition of twenty-five galleys, and having manned them with sufficient crews of colonists, set forth from Iceland to what appeared a more congenial climate. They sailed upon the ocean fifteen days, and they saw no land. The next day brought with it a storm, and many a gallant vessel sank in the deep. Mountains of ice covered the water as far as the eye could reach, and but a few galleys escaped destruction. The morning of the seventeenth day was clear and cloudless; the sea was calm, and far away to the northward could be seen the glare of ice-fields reflected on the sky. The remains of the shattered fleet gathered together to pursue their voyage, but the galleys of Erick Rande was not there.

The crew of the galley which was driven further down than the rest, reported that as the morning broke the large fields of ice that had covered the ocean were driven by the current past them, and that they beheld the galley of Erick Rande borne by restless forces and spent of the wind before a tremendous field of ice her crew had lost all control over her and they were tossing their arms in wild agony. Scarcely a moment had elapsed before the whole mass moved forward and was soon beyond the horizon. That the galley of the survivor escaped was wonderful, it remained, however, unaccounted, and the vessel of Erick Rande was nevermore seen.

Half a century after that a Danish colony was established on the western coast of Greenland. The crew of the vessel which carried the colonists thither, in their excursions into the interior, crossed a range of hills that stretched to the northward; they had approached nearer to the pole than any preceding adventures. Upon looking down from the summit of the hills they beheld a vast and interminable field of ice undulating in various places, and formed into a thousand grotesque shapes.

They saw, not far from the shore, a figure of an ice vessel, with glittering icicles instead of masts arising from it. Curiosity prompted them to approach, and they beheld a dismal sight. Figures of men in every attitude of woe were upon the deck, but they were icy things; their eyes glared above their dead, and with ghastly looks, leaning against the mast. A hatchet was procured, and the few split away, and the features of a childlain disclosed, pallid and deathly and free from decay.

This was doubtless the vessel, and that the figure and form of Erick Rande. Described with cold and in the agony of despair, his crew had fallen around him. The spray of the ocean and the fog had frozen, as it lighted upon them, and covered each figure with an icy robe, which the short lived glance of a Greenland sun had not

time to remove. The Danes gazed upon the spectacle with trembling eyes. They knew not but the scene might be their fate. They knelt down upon the deck and uttered a prayer for the souls of the frozen crew, then hurriedly left the place for night was approaching.

TREASURY AND TROUBLE.—United States Commissioner Hyde of late has been occupied with the examination of a case which springs from the loss of that ill-fated treasure ship, the *Golden Gate*.—Other than the rightful parties, down and picked her bones as they lay at the bottom of the sea, recovering a large amount of treasure from her. A portion of this, some \$250,000 in value, was shipped to this city by the wreckers, in the charge of Captain Serafin Garcia, commander of a coasting vessel. The captain of the wrecking ship, whose name is Francisco, accompanied the treasure. This was the last heard of the money.

Suit was brought by the United States against Serafin Garcia for the recovery of the treasure, Henry Holman, one of the wrecking party, having turned States' evidence. There is a deal of romance in all the testimony given, of groping among the ship's bones for boxes of gold—and it seems to be thought that about Holman's testimony there is too much romance to stand the test of truth. He stated several conversations he had had with Captain Garcia, but not very clearly. He professed to be fluent in Spanish, but examination proved that his Spanish, like his evidence, was mixed. Commissioner Hyde, after a careful review of all the points involved, rendered his decision to-day, discharging the defendant, Garcia. The reason of the decision is one year, as the French say. Admitting that Holman's story of recovering \$250,000 in gold coin and bars five miles after reaching the wreck and its subsequent shipment to this city on Garcia's vessel, is true, one of the alleged owners accompanied it as a passenger, and it came ashore. Believed at its destination, Captain Garcia's connection with the affair was ended, and so admitting all of Holman's story to be true, Garcia would only figure in the transaction as an agent. The Commissioner thinks that at least \$800,000 of the treasure has been made away with by wreckers, but of course could not decide that in this instance the United States had any claim against Garcia.

A post office dodge, it seems, was practiced by the wreckers when their ship was searched by the custom house officials in Manzanillo. They deposited their treasure in a canvas bag and let it slide down the cable to the anchor. Of course the officials, with the men who distinguished the great world of legislators, immediately went to work and searched every box, bag, canvas, and locker in the ship. The common run of detectives in these cases do not give much credit for reasoning as much brains as they themselves possess. It seems never to occur to them that the man who desires to conceal a thing first, asks of himself: Where will the searchers be likely to look and their likely object. A man of detective penetration in the matter would have hoisted the anchor, dragged the bottom of the vessel, or searched the bay over for hours, at once. It would have occurred to him that the treasure, if concealed within the limits of a small ship, must be found, and that their only chance was to drop it overboard, with some means provided for its subsequent recovery. It was safe to bet that the custom house people at Manzanillo had an eye to another for the future.—[San Francisco Bulletin, June 20th.]

Important Post Office Arrangement.

The recent Congress changed the Post Office laws materially. The change went into effect on the first day of July, and it is important that the public should be fully posted. The following is the section of the law relating to the preparation of postage and box rates:

Sec. 1. And be it further enacted, That no mail matter shall be delivered by the Postmaster until the postage thereon shall have been paid; and no box in any postoffice shall be assigned to the use of any person until the next thereafter has been paid for at least one quarter, for which the Postmaster shall give a receipt, and keep a record thereof in his office, which record shall be delivered to his successor.

The section absolutely prohibits the delivery of any letter, newspaper, pamphlet or package whatever, until the postage charged thereon shall be paid. Postmasters must strictly conform to it. Printed matter must be retained until it is paid for, either as a transient package, or for a quarter.

Postage on drop letters to be delivered at the mailing office, is two cents on letters weighing less than half an ounce; if over half an ounce, an additional charge of two cents will be made for every half ounce or fraction of an ounce. The postage must be prepaid by stamps.

It will be seen that these changes take effect on the first of July, and that the Postmaster's instructions are peremptory.

Horror of the Border.

People greatly mistake who suppose that on and near the line between Kansas and Missouri the question is any longer one of Union and Disunion. The real question is rather who has any property left to be stolen or any threat to be cut. Kansas and millions of all kinds—collected from every part of the United States, and probably some parts of Europe—abound all through the border country. They are more robbers and murderers; but disguise their character under some thin mask—sometimes of Secessionism and sometimes of Unionism. It might be interesting to contrast a census (supposing one could be taken) of the present number of inhabitants in the Missouri border counties with a register of the number three years ago. Desolation and desecration are printed in the saddest colors all over that ravaged tract of country. The Missouri border has been pretty thoroughly laid waste, the legends are now paying their attention to the Kansas border. The merchants' caravans on the Santa Fe trail hold out strong temptations to those rascals, who vary their occupations of robbing stores, burning houses, and murdering peaceable settlers in Kansas, by assaulting and robbing the trains in New Mexico. A home in the range of the Bedonko Archa would be about as safe and agreeable as one in this border country. It would seem that a most take some time and the most stringent measures of a fearless Government before that country can be again the St. Abode of civilized man.—[St. Louis Republican.]